

sometimes brilliant, sometimes ponderous. *Bird Lore*, elegant, typographically perfect, an avowed bird protector; a boon to the beginner. The *Condor*, lone representative of the Pacific slope, an "over-flow meeting" of the *Auk*. *Birds and Nature* with its beautiful colored pictures of great assistance to both teacher and scholar. *American Ornithology*, bright and artistic. The *Oologist*, the mecca of all oologists and exchangers. The *Journal of Maine Ornithological Society*, of more than local interests. The *Wilson Bulletin* with its schemes of co-operative investigation, bird census and horizons. Many other papers and magazines regularly devote from half a column to many pages to the subject, besides the inevitable "mushrooms" which cannot be taken seriously.

Dr. R. W. Shufeldt has removed from Washington, D. C., to New York City. His address is 502 West 142nd St., Hamilton Place.

President's Address.

The Wilson Ornithological Chapter was organized as an association of ornithologists, who desired to do original work on a co-operative basis. It has published bulletins which we feel were worth all they cost and it has served as a training school for a number of young ornithologists.

Field work is naturally the most available line of study for our members and our bulletins are best known as field study publications. Under the head of field studies, we do not, however, include simple descriptions of collecting trips or collections. Collecting can never be to the investigator anything more than a means towards an end and collections are of little scientific value except as they furnish material for scientific studies that are of themselves worth while.

We have several committees engaged in special lines of field work on the co-operative plan. Every member is urged to report to the chairmen of the various committees his observations, even if they are few. Members are also urged to extend the usefulness of these committees by obtaining new members,

who will be willing to enter into the spirit of our work and to undertake the various lines of study we have outlined. Information concerning our work may be obtained from Mr. Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.

Our constitution calls for an annual election of officers. We were once in the habit of holding this election regularly, but during the past two or three years it seems to have been forgotten. There appears to me no better way to make amends for past neglect than to call for a regular election. Every active member is urged to make nominations to the secretary at once. A list of candidates will then be published and an election held by mail. As the office of secretary is at present vacant, I appoint Mr. Benj. T. Gault to be secretary for the few weeks remaining before a regular secretary can be elected.

The officers to be elected are a president, secretary, treasurer, and three members of the executive council.

According to our constitution any active member may place in nomination during the month of September, one eligible member for each elective office; all nominations to be sent to the president.

R. M. STRONG, W. O. C., President,
Woods Hole, Mass.

A Criticism.

A criticism in the March-April number of "The Condor," upon Bulletin No. 33, which is a running account of "A Summer Reconnaissance in the West," under the joint editorship of the writer and Rev. W. L. Dawson, seems to call for some comment. It is true that the criticism is mainly directed against the writer's list taken in Los Angeles county alone, but some remarks of a general nature seem to reflect upon the whole enterprise.

In the interest of accuracy the criticism is welcomed, the more so, because for Los Angeles county it accomplishes what did not seem feasible in the small space allotted to that large field; namely, indicating what species were rare and therefore